

## CAPTIVE NATIONS WEEK

JULY 2, 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. EASTLAND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany S. J. Res. 111]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the joint resolution (S. J. Res. 111) providing for the designation of the week following the Fourth of July as "Captive Nations Week," having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendments and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

#### AMENDMENTS

On page 3, strike all after the resolving clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating the third week in July 1959 as "Captive Nations Week" and inviting the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities. The President is further authorized and requested to issue a similar proclamation each year until such time as freedom and independence shall have been achieved for all the captive nations of the world.

Amend the title so as to read:

Joint resolution providing for the designation of the third week of July as "Captive Nations Week."

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of the joint resolution, as amended, is to authorize and request the President of the United States to designate the third week in July as "Captive Nations Week."

## STATEMENT

Each Fourth of July our Nation commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Independence of 1776. No day of patriotic observance which this Nation celebrates is more replete with inspiration for opposition to the forces of oppression than the day on which the Declaration of Independence was signed. Moreover, there can be little question that today, as in 1776, this Nation needs to reaffirm its allegiance to the principles set forth in that historic document. The years following 1776 have seen the United States become the symbol of democracy for all the free peoples of the world. The greatness of our country is in large part attributable to having been able, through the democratic processes, to achieve a harmonious national unity of its people, even though they stem from the most diverse of racial, religious and ethnic backgrounds. This harmonious unification of the diverse elements of our free society has led the people of the United States to possess a warm understanding and sympathy for the aspirations of people everywhere to follow our example of unification. In this period when we are commemorating our own Declaration of Independence, it is timely that our people reflect upon the moral and political principles embodied in our Declaration of Independence. Even more important is the application of these perennial principles to other nations and people. In our own basic security interests these principles must be steadfastly held out to the people of those nations who, through direct and indirect aggression, have been subjected to the will of Moscow since 1918.

These submerged nations look to the United States as the citadel of human freedom for leadership in bringing about their liberation and independence and in restoring to them the enjoyment of their religious freedoms and of their individual liberties. This proclamation by the President designating a week as "Captive Nations Week" calls to the attention of the world, and particularly to those people who are subjected to Communist imperialism, that the people of the United States share with them their aspirations for the recovery of their freedom and independence.

The committee deems it fitting that by this resolution encouragement will be given these captive nations to seek recovery of their freedom and independence. The committee is heartily in accord with the spirit and purpose of this resolution and, therefore, recommends favorable consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 111, as amended.

